

its harme is so growen and stubburne, that it can not be holpen without great mischief.

From these mischiefs we we protest against the wound and those that made it: he that made the wound is guiltie of the fire, the cosoline, the incisions, and the griefes that necessarilie they make. It sufficeth, and euery one may see it, that in that little which we may, we bring the care of the god surgeon that loneth the patient. The enemies in deede that lone the disease, will, besides the iron, bring both hatred & fraud, as they that can haue no contentatis but in their ambition ouer this estate, neither can they content themselues but in her sinall death, a death which we will redeme with the price of our life and all our goods. But rather (as we trust in God the preseruer of kings and kingdoms) we shal shortly as the fruite of our labours, see the king in his due authoritie, whereto he is bozne, and the Realme in like force and dignitie as heretofore, to the contentment of all good Frenchmen, the comfort of such numbers of poore people, & the hart breaking of such as doe couet the ruine thereof.

We doe therefore beseech the Lordes of the Courtes of Parlement, all gouernours, lieutenants generall of the prouinces, chambers of accompts, courts of aides, treasurers generall of Fraunce, prouostes, bailiffes, seneschalles, iudges, maiors, sheriffes, iurats, consuls, headboroughs, bodies and communalities of towtens, and all other iustices and officers my Lord the Kings subiectes, to assist, fauour, & leane vnto vs, for the benefite of his affaires and service: for such is our desire. Given at Saulmur, the eighteenth of Aprill, 1589.

Thus signed

HENRIE.

By the king of Nauarre, first Prince of the blood, and chiefe Peere of Fraunce.

DEVICOSE.

FINIS.

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By the king of Nauarre, first Prince of the blood, and chiefe Peere of Fraunce.

DEVICOSE.

FINIS.

A
TRUE DISCOVERSE
OF THE DISCOMFITURE OF
THE DVKE OF AVMALLE, VVITH HIS
TROVPES OF HORSMEN IN PICAR-
DIE, BY THE DVKE OF
LONGVEVILLE.

Also other troupes of men discomfited in Beausse,
by the Lord of Chastillon:

Together with the king of Nauarre his letters
to the Inhabitants of Orleans.



AT LONDON
Printed by Richard Field, according to the
French Copies first printed at
Tours. 1589.

THE DISCOVERY

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A DISCOVRSE VPON
THE DISCOMFITVRE OR
OVERTHROW THAT THE DVKE OF
Aumalle, and Lord of Ballagnay with their troupes of
men sustayned by the Duke of Longue-ville, and other
Lords and Chiefetaines on the king his part. And
of the rayfing of the siege at the towne of
Senlis in Picardie.

It is well knowen in Fraunce,
how at the end of April last, Mon-
sieur de Thore, in the kings be-
halfe, went vp and downe in the
towne of Senlis, conferring with
the god and faithfull inhabitants
thereof, and seeking to maintaine
the people in their due obedience
to the king his Maiestie. He then had thre dayes space
befoze that the Parisians (who were amased to see the so-
daine reducing of the said towne to his Maiesties obedi-
ence) could come thither, or could cause the Duke of Au-
malle to come and besiege the foresaid Senlis: during
which time of thre dayes the said Monsieur de Thore had
leisure both to furnish the town with victual & munition,
which he did abundantly provide of all things necessa-
rie for the keeping and defence thereof. Also he caused
to come thither, of choise men, out of euery the villages
in the valley and Duchie of Montmorency, a sufficient
companie to fortifie the towne: so that there were two
thousand able and resolute fighting men, at the least, who

were ready to stand against any forces that should seek to assault the towne. This he did, not that the place was of such strength, (for that was weake inough) but relying trust in the courage and faithfull mindes of the inhabitants and souldiers that were there. Then the Lord of Maigneville, who is now called the Gouverneur of Paris, because the Duke of Maignie was not there, came first out with a companie of Parisians well armed, and the Duke of Anmalle was there almost as soone as he, with a companie of brave horsemen, and a sort of footmen: and they besieged the towne, being at the first dally to the number of foure thousand men. Immediately, the Parisians and other their partakers, came polling from many places, being well horsed & furnished, so as in short space there were gathered five or six thousand men well provided besieging the towne. On Friday the fifth of May they sent to Paris, for to have ordinance, and the same day were three peeces sent them and no more: that is, two Canons and one Culverine, which, for that none could be found to conduct them with so much speed as they wished, the way that they used was thus: There having bene an order taken at Paris not long before, that of certaine Colonelles that were in sixteen quarters or parts of the Citie, one should march every day in good order, and well furnished, with eleven or twelve hundred men, out of the City, for to keepe the Castle of Saint Vincent, whatsoever might happen: this Friday it happened that the Colonel and Captaine of Aubret his regiment was assembled for to go and gather together another regiment and companie Colonelle for captaine Compans, the one of the Shirifes of the said Citie of Paris: the said regiment of the captaine and Colonel d'Aubret was constrained, going along upon our Ladies bridge, whereas they should have turned by the Greus, toward S. Anthones gate, for to goe to the Castle of S. Vincent (whither a litle before were gone their baggage, their apparel,

viduall

victuall and such like) that they might goe forth straight
 by S. Martines gate, to conduct the said ordinance, which
 was carried a little before toward the Suburbs, vnder
 the charge of one Brigard, the procurator of the hofsell of
 the citie: and the next day, being Saturday, in the eue-
 ning, they came before Senlis: where at the first coming,
 they bayled the towne with a canon shot, at y^e noyse wherof
 on a sodain all the souldiers came to the wall of y^e towne,
 and offered to make as great a breach in the wall, as they
 would demaund without their vsing of canon shot, seeing
 that they promised to geue the assault: and hee upon be-
 ing presently summoned to yeld vnto a composition, they
 promised to make answer on the morow: wherupō a re-
 port came to Paris, that they of y^e towne had offered 3. score
 thousand crownes as some said; 100. thousand crownes as
 other said: for their answer they hāged out & spread vpon
 the walles outward a great paynted cloth, in which they
 had hanged pourtrayed together two persons, the Duke
 of Mayenne on the one side, & the Duke of Aumalle on y^e
 other, and the Lady Montpensier kneeling at the feete of
 them with her head all vncouered, weeping, and tearing
 her haire: and the people cried out with vile opprobrious
 speeches, that the same was the portraiture of the compo-
 sition that they demaunded. This draue them to send a-
 gaine vnto Paris for strength of Canon shot to beate the
 towne to dust, as they said. The messengers were tur-
 ned away thence as sleightly as might be, without obtai-
 ning that they came for, and excuse was made that they
 lacked bullets, and such pēces as they demaunded: and
 that was partly also for a distrust they had in the Duke
 of Aumalle, who had oftentimes refused to come and ioine
 himselfe with the Duke of Mayenne, by reason of ambi-
 tion that is betwixt them: moreouer, because that they
 thought that the Lord of Ballagny was comming thither
 with great strength of men, and seuen Canons. Before
 the comming of which Lord of Ballagny, they of Senlis

made a sallie out of the towne of a hundred horsemen: whereat they that besieged the towne were so amazed, that they thought best to fly, and especially the Parisians cast away their armes, flying, and hiding themselves in bushes on euery side: of whitch hundred horsemen, fiftie came backe into the towne, and the other fiftie kept the field for to ayde any that might come to succour them. When the Lord of Ballagny with his companies of men, came and toynded with the Duke of Aumalle, & they with their tenne Canons, began the battery on Wednesday, the senententh of May, and within a while the souldiers confusedly gaue assault to the foresaid towne by the breach made the same day, which was in trueth a great breach: notwithstanding, they had the repulse, by reason they did that without the appointment of the Generall of the armie. About none word came that the Duke of Longueuille accompanied with the Lord of Humieres, the Lord Bonniuet, the Lord de la Pone, the Lord of Giury, of Mesuiller, of Tour, and other Nobles of the Province of Picardie, were at hand, to the number of a thousand horsemen, and thre thousand footemen, for to ayde the towne of Senlis. Whereupon, the foresaid Lord of Ballagny pitched in campe the best power of his men: & being then accompanied with the Lords of Pain-uille, of Sayssenall, of Mesieres, of Congy and others, comming heare the said Duke of Longueuille, the horsemen of Cambzay marched on in good order, thinking to ouercome the footemen of the said Duke of Longueuille: whitch footemen deuided in the middle, and gaue room for the ordinance, which shot so furiously among them of Cábzay and among the Mallons, that saing so many of themselves ouerthrowen, they were forced to retire. Afterward, they comming to a set battaile, fought stoutly on both sides, and with great courage, the ordinance of the said Duke of Longueuille, still making great spoyle among the souldiers of the Duke of Aumalle, in so much that

that the souldiers began to conceiue such great dread, as neither the Duke of Aumalle, nor the Lord of Ballagny could euer gather them together againe by their chearful words, or goodly shewes whatsoener: and the armie that held the siege fled all away presently. Which thing encouraged the Duke of Longueuille, with those that had bene besieged, issuing thicke out then, to follow them in chase, and kill them with handy blowes. By which meane they hold now safely the towne Senlis, haue gotten all the munition that the Duke of Aumalle had, powder, bullets, and ordinance, about fiftene hundred, or nere two thousand be slaine in that place, besides those that were pursued and slaine as they fled in diuers villages. The said Duke of Aumalle is hurt, and the Lord of Ballagny is also hurt in the face, though it be but a little: and the Duke of Aumalle is gone back to S. Denis, fearing lest he should not be in safetie, nor very well welcome to Paris: the Lord of Ballagny saued himselfe by flying to Paris, there sayning that he would take order for the gathering together again of the souldiers, because he would seme to threaten his enemies, and to encourage again the byaue souldiers of Paris.

The Copie of a letter, written by a certaine Lord,
to a kinsman of his, the twentieth of
May. 1589.

Cousin, I stayed this bearer untill I had some good newes to write. I euen now haue receiued some by a man that I sent to Paris: he saw the companies of monsieur d'Aumalle, that were discomfited at Senlis by monsieur de Longueuille, accompanied with monsieur de la Boue: he gat safe himselfe the thirde day after his flight to Saint Denis. Ballagny is safe at Paris, and cheareth by the people that be altogether amazed and adread at this ouerthrow. He promiset them new forces out of the low Countreyes, but he hath the money. Judge you

whether this be the way to make them wel againe. They
 haue lost tenne great peces of ordinaunce, thre that be-
 longed to the Arcenall, fire to Peronne, and one to Ami-
 ens: that was done on Wednesday toward euening. My
 man could not tell me what men they lost, for he came in
 haste to bring mee this good tidings. Make acquainted
 herewith Master Warden of Seur, and M. Warden of
 Souray. You know also what monsieur de Chastillon
 did on Thursday toward euening. This hath bene an
 vnluckie weeke for them, and so I trust will the whole
 yeare be. Continue your friendship to me, and
 make account, god cousin, that I will doe
 the like to you alwaies.

Your well affectioned Cousin,
 and better friend, M. R.

THE

THE LETTER OF A CERTAINE GENTLEMAN OF BEAVSSE

to a friend of his being a Citizen of Paris, touching
the ouerthrow of the forces of Monsieur
d'Aumalle, written on Thursday
the 18. of May. 1589.

I haue bene euen amazed a thousand times, to thinke of the newes that haue bene repoꝛted to me foꝛ certaine & true, touching the establishing of your matters at Paris, and that you haue so often sent me foꝛ true, many tidings that were but inuented by some cunning fellowes, who deceiue & abuse

you, while they goe about other manner purposes than they make you acquainted with: which is the cause, Sir, and my good friend, that I haue written this vnto you, that ye may not be ignoꝛant of that which happened yesterday: knowing that you shall haue the matter repoꝛted there with you farre otherwise than is true, because they would not haue the Citizens discouraged, and to feed you dayly with hope of some high enterprises, that you expect at the hands of this holy and inuincible army, that Monsieur the Duke of Mayenne hath so long kept in this Countrey without doing any thing, making great promises, the least of which is, that he will bying the kings Maiesie to that passe that the most mutinous fellowes in your Citie desire to haue him: and foꝛ a triall, he hath in deede, when the greatest forces of the king were away, drawen nigh enough. True it is that he wet back again,

as was best for him to doe, and after that he had done somewhat as he might, being obstinate a long time, after his so great enterprising he gaue place to the kings presence, and at the comming of the king of Nauarre, he got him backe as soone as he vnderstode that he was neare, but this is not y onely argumēt that I write of, but for to tell you that we knew how discontented the Strangers and Mallons of his armie were, so as they would needs haue bene gone, and that the said Lord had much a doe to make them stay, and I beleue the cause why they be not yet come backe, is the hope that he put them in of receiving new forces, and fresh supplie from the companies in Picardie, which he looked for fro the Lord of Aumalle, I tell you plaine that this their hope is choaked: for on Thursday last at thre of the clock after none, as I vnderstode by a frend of mine, the Lord of Chastillon, passing by Boisgency, and being sent to the warre by the k. of Nauarre, with two hundred horsemen, and as many harquebusiers, vnderstanding that certaine of the Duke of Aumalle his troupes came that way, for to set upon the Lord of Rozes, who had beaten the way the day before, directed his course toward Bonnenall, and with him twenty of his Gentlemen for scouters, who were led by the Lord of Fouquerolles: they met with Arcleinville, gouernor for the Duke of Mayenne at Chartres, who had with him fiftie horses, they make towards him for to bid him battaile, he meeteth with them, they vse the matter so that they kill fise or sixe of his men: he retireth and genneth Alarme to the troupe that was but a quarter of a mile thence, the troupe came orderly vnder the leading of the Lord of Sauenze, where were the Lords of Wosses, that had a faire troupe of sixe or seven score gentlemen, all the choise of noble birth in Picardie on their side, to the number of thre hundred horse, with fise and twenty or thirtie harquebusiers, with the Lord of Fozeville, & many other Gentlemen of name: then the Lord

of

of Chastillon changed his pace to a trotte, for to enter-
taine them. Charboniere and Parambure with their co-
panies of light horsemen, were on his left wing on the o-
ther side. Sauuaye setting forth befoze his harquebusiers,
set his company of Lanciers in rankes, and commeth a
great pace, without breaking ranke, for the space of a
quarter of a mile. The trumpets sound the charge on
both sides, the Lord of Chastillon casteth about a little, to
stay for his harquebusiers, and placing them, he maketh
two hostes of the horsemen that he hath, he goeth to the
skirmish. Sauuaye commeth forth very branely & coura-
giouly, galloping for thirty paces, his harquebusiers on
horseback geue the onset nere inough: the L. of Chastillon
his footemen receiueth them: who, after the first harque-
busiers were discharged, euen during the fight, rushed in
among the horsemen, killed many horses with their
swozdes, and of them were slain one that had borne of the
king of Nauarres garde, and two souldiers of the garri-
son of Boisgency, and no mo. Sauuaye, who on a sodaine
had bent himselfe against the light horsemen, taketh
right, and chargeth so furiously the Lord of Chastillon,
that the first rankes were broken, he vnhorsed and layde
along, and eight or tenne of his Gentlemen incurred the
like misfortune: among whom were Mouy, Rosny, S.
Sere, Fresillon and Chamballan: two or thre of which
were hurt with launces, and twenty or thirty of their
horses slaine. The Hostes at the same time set vpon
the rereward of the Lord of Chastillon, so that his troupe
was greatly troubled. At length the Lord of Chastillon,
and others that were ouerthrowen, recovered themselves,
and fell a fighting with their swozds on foote, and he him-
selfe aduentured so farre, that he was hurt on the face
with a broken launce. In the meane while Parambure,
who had the leading of the king of Nauarre his light
horsemen, next to whom was Fouquerolles in ranke, set
vpon Sauuaye and his companie so furiously, that he en-

fered and brake ray, so as he made them flie, and disperse
 themselves in such sort, that they could not be gathered
 together againe. They were then pursued, and stayed
 in the same place where were assembled of Picards aboute
 fixe score Gentlemen: the residue were pursued a good
 mile and a halfe, and were slaine by the way flying, to
 the number of threescore & mo, with al the harquebusiers,
 two Coznets taken, and the bearers of them slaine, forty
 Gentlemen taken, among which were Saueuse and
 Fozcenille: Many of account were hurt, where as the
 Lord of Chastillon lost but one Gentleman, and but three
 souldiers, as I said before, and there were hurt none but
 Chamballam and two or three others that were hurt
 with launces and swordes, yet their hurts are not deadly.
 The Lord of Chastillon won the field. This is a begin-
 ning to make them loke vnto their owne consciences,
 that are risen vp against the king. I was desirous to let
 you vnderstand hereof, that ye might know the trueth,
 which is hidden from you by cosening Gifts that they
 haue to fede you with false rumors. I learned this by a
 Gentleman that brought a letter, the copie of which I
 now send you. He vnderstood all the particulars by them
 that were at the discomfiture. Loke to your selfe, and ad-
 uise such as are well disposed to take a good heart to ths.
 I will now trouble you no longer, vntill I haue other
 good newes come to my hand: in the meane while I
 commend me to your good grace, praying God
 to keepe you. From Chasteaudun,

May 19. 1589

THE

The Copie of a letter written by a Lord, to a kinsman
of his, vpon the discomfiture of the troupes of the
L. of Aumalle, neare Bonneuall, on Thursday
the 18. of May 1589.

Cousin, you shall vnderstand by *P.* the happy execu-
tion that Monsieur de Chastillon made yesterday at
four of the clock neare Bonneuall, vpon the troupes of
Monsieur d'Aumalle, being led by Saueuze. He took Sa-
ueuze and another of the chieftaines: some of the Cap-
taines were slaine, and about two hundred of their men,
the residue are prisoners, and their colours are gotten a-
way. To be short, this is as happy a victorie as any that
hath bene gotten in these warres. All the kings enemies
that came out of Picardie are stayed there. This will be
good newes for the king, and fitte for his dealing with
them of Poitiers. The foresaid *P.* will tell you all par-
ticularly. Resting my selfe thereupon, I will say no
more, but will pray God, good Cousin, to keepe you.

From Saint Die May 19.

Your very good and faithfull friend.

P. P.



A LETTER OF THE KING
OF NAVARRE TO THE MAISTERS
of Orleans, written the two and twentieth of
May, 1589. From Baugency.

FRIENDES, I am very sozy to come
and visit you with such a company
and to be constrained after so long
time that I haue beene comming
toward you, to shew vnto this pro-
uince and to your neighbours a-
bout, those verasions and discom-
modities that warre brings with
it. I haue notwithstanding heretofore yeldded testimo-
nies enough both before God and men, of the disliking
that I had in maintaining warres: I haue by many and
sundry actions shewed, that my bearing armes was to
none other end, but to procure peace, that in hope hereof
I am bold to beare armes: hauing this conscience, I trust
that God will blesse me in my battailes: especially now,
when as euen in the sight of all Chriffendome my King
hath honoured me so much as to yeld him selfe the iudge
of my right intentions, and he is become the best witnes
that I could wish, of mine innocency. I haue in generall
many times exhorted Fraunce to desire the owne quiet
and rest. I haue according to my duety in seruice to the
King my Lord and maister, and soz the god of my coun-
trei foreseene and manifestly spoken, euer since the be-
ginning of the last ciuill warres, against the euils wher-
with they haue now filled the estate of this realme. My
foreseeings thereof proued as true as my protestations
and speakings of it were vnprofitable, to my great grief
(God

(God hauing sent his rod of dissention vpon this poore Realme.) Yet will I not cease to deserue well of the Realme: my Countrey shall rather faile in duetie towards me a Citizen thereof, than I a Citizen will faile in duetie toward my Countrey: and as long as I shall see this sicke commonweale breathe or gaspe, I will not once leaue it, vntill it be either wholly cured, or that I be dead with it. Loke what I haue done in generall, that will I doe in particulars, wheresoeuer occasion shall be offered. And I am glad that comming to you (befoze that y^e matter come to be tried by force of armes) I may assay what good order, reason and milde courtesie may winne your hearts vnto: ffor you, whatsoeuer madnes, or infectious disease God hath layd vpon you, those are but things now ordinarily incident to ffrance: I assure my selfe that you are of the race of those men that alone did assist king Charles the seuenth when he fled to Bourges, and ayded him against England, against Burgonie, Guienne, Normandie, Britaine, and almost all ffrance that was confederate against him. I cannot but stil wonder, and am astonied to thinke how ye should become so sencelesse, as now to make no moze account of that most famous title of your Auncessors: I cannot deuise what argument might be so effectuell, and of such importance, as to make you so lightly to leaue your fidelitie & loyalty, the oath which euen from his birth every one of you hath swozne to his Countrey, the vow that ye haue reiterated or made againe and againe, at the coronation of so many kings, and the same oath, wherewith you haue stand bound these many yeares, and yet so abide vnder this king, whom God at this present hath geuen vs. I cannot imagine what might driue you to thinke that a slauiish estate vnder the Spaniards, should be moze pleasant than to liue at libertie, according to the manner of ffrance: that the crosse of Lozaine, or of Burgonie, should better gouerne the estate, than the auncient and fortunate Flour.

deluces, which be reuerenced all Chriffendome ouer. To conclude, that the name of a traytoꝝ, of a rebell againſt his magiſtrate, againſt his Prince, to be a deſpiſer of his commandements, and a violater of his maieltie, ſhould be better, and moꝛe honourable than the name of a good Citizen, and a faithfull ſubiect. But you will ſay, it is an vnſeemly thing foꝛ me that haue boꝛne armes foꝛ the libertie of conſcience, if I ſhould blame your doings, that are grounde vpon a colour of the like. What which may ſerue foꝛ an excuſe to thoſe of the religion, ye would hold to be lawfull foꝛ you: but ſeing you like to take them foꝛ example, goe yet no further than they. If they would haue gone about to plant their religion in Fraunce by dint of ſwoꝝd: if they had gone about to make any warre offenſiue to the king, befoꝛe they were ſet vpon, & forced to defend themſelues, What would men haue ſaid then? They neuer did ſo: they alwaies ſtood vpon their defence, alwaies ready to receiue peace whenſoener it was offered: and yet notwithstanding, onely becauſe that the anointed of the Lord, he to whom the ſcepter belongeth, was againſt the, God did not alwaies bleſſe their armes: foꝛ to declare vnto the people that there is nothing ſo deare vnto God, as the maintaining of the Maieſtie of kings, which is an image of his owne maieltie, and they are his Lieutenants on earth. You haue heretofore accuſed thoſe of Rochell, you haue vniuſſly called them traytoꝝs and rebels, becauſe they would not gene ouer the libertie of their conſcience, noꝛ hazard their liues to the mercie of their enemies. If you ſpight at them with thoſe godly names, ſay a while as well as they, vntill you ſee Edicts publiſhed, by which all the Catholikes of France ſhalbe accounted and bled as traytoꝝs: waite till ye ſee them ſlaine throughout all the good cities and towneſ that be neare you, and that an armie of men ſhall come thundering vpon your walles foꝛ to ſpoyle you: then ſhal ſcare indeede excuſe your taking armes, and neceſſitie
your

your rebellion. But untill that time, my friends, what haſt haue ye to make your childre a race of faithleſſe truce breakers, rebels and trayſors. But ye will ſay that then it will be no time, and that you will prouide ſoꝛ that beſoꝛe hand. If ye would eſteeme your cauſe and end to be better than theirs of the religion, ye muſt think that it wil neceſſarily follow, that God wil no leſſe fauour you than them, ſeeing you follow them ſoꝛ example. Call to minde, that they had to deale with the ſtate of Fraunce when it was flouriſhing, with kings that were well obeyed, well ſetled, that they were often ſurpriſed, and their chiefeſtaines ſlaiane: they neuer gaue a blow, but firſt they receiued twaine: they neuer had the ſoꝛecaſts that you haue, and ſoꝛ all that they be yet aliue and at libertie, God be praiſed: will he doe leſſe ſoꝛ you when ye ſhal be ſet vpon? And ye all know that you are yet ſtronger than they, and that you can neuer haue the enemies that they haue had. Who doeth make you to runne headlong ſo rathly: what madnes is it, ſoꝛ feare of ſome euil that may diſpleaſe you hereafter, to make your ſelues preſently vnfoꝛtunate, and in miſerable ſtate: ſoꝛ to hinder a fault that may be, to committe a manifeſt crime: ſoꝛ pꝛeuenting an euill farre of, to cauſe and ſuffer an innumerable ſoꝛt of euils: ſoꝛ aſſurance of libertie to your children, to bzing them bp in bondage: ſoꝛ making ſure to them their quiet eſtate & their goods, to geue them ouer vnto warres and robberie? Belæue mee, my friends, they that put this in your heads, doe goe about to make your backs as ſoftſteps to get bp vnto the ſcaffold of their ambition: but they ſoꝛgat to tel you, that if the ſcaffold fall (as no doubt it ſhall) they ſhal come downe headlong, and you will be ſtrided vnder them, if they come not downe beſimes, and that you doe not get you alway beſoꝛe all be ouerthꝛowē. Aduiſe you wel of the matter, it is but to put you in a vaine feare, to perſwade you that our king (who is the moſt Catholike king that euer was) will compell you to

leauē your Catholike religion, he is farre from threating you that. But what, Should I be he that should doe it? I am not your king, neither shall I ever be (if it please God.) If I should be called thereto, I would not be so vnwise, but I would flie all occasions that might breede ciuill warre and dissention in a Realme. I am glad that I may now talke so familiarly and neighborly with you. You haue sene there but for two dayes, Wednesday and Thursday last, the beginnings of the successe that God sent your armed men at Senlis, and here, even in the view of two of the greatest cities of Fraunce: Loke vpon it, it is not for you to make warre against your king, whether he had occasion to punish the Duke of Guise, yea or no. There haue at other times bene in Fraunce some of as great a house as he, that haue bene more shamefully bled: and yet the people toke not an euill quarrell in hand. Soueraigns are not to render an account of their scepter to any but to God: when things are done, we must looke to obey them: you shall neuer doe wel as long as your foundation is so ill. And if ye would complaine, that gouernors would be set ouer you, or a garrison of men that would treade you vnder fote, and make you for's and such like: albeit these be the ordinary complaints of all cities and townes, which be not lawfull in a peaceable and well gouerned Realme, yet the disorders of our Realme hath made them fitter to be receiued. If you would but desire it, I know not certainly my L. the king his mind, but I am surely perswaded, that for getting your offences, he will be at one with you, if ye will but frame your selues to acknowledge your faults, and craue pardon. And doing thus, you shal not need feare that any but your owne selues shall driue you to leauē your religion, that any other shall builde your forts but your selues, that ye shalbe your owne garrison. And that is more fittē and profitable for you, than to be alwaies in paine and at alarme, hauing nēde alwaies of an armie

to garde you whensoever ye goe out at the gates neuer so little, to see your coyne fields, your houses and vines on a fire, your wiues and childre spoiled, while you go about to reuenge another mans quarrell. My friends, if I were a Spaniard, or one of Lorraine, I would not talke thus vnto you, I would be glad to see you at war among your selues, and to see my selfe euen at your gates ready to spoile you, or to besiege you: I would imagine that I had the spoile of you already. This is it whereat the enemies doe glory and boast, & if I were as they be, I would wish it no otherwise: but I am a Frenchman, I am one of your Princes, I haue a right in looking to the safegard of you, therefore speake I this vnto you. You may, if yee will, keepe you where ye are in safetie and rest, being masters of your owne houses, so as ye will gently yeelde obedience and dutie, as you owe, vnto your king: and as your example hath made many foles, deale so now, as by following of you many may become wise. And beleaue me friends this one word, that in trueth if but your only citie had rebelled, ye ought to haue bene soze punished, but seeing the contagion is generall, it must be cured by clemencie. Certaine it is, neuertheless, that as the citie or towne that first began rebellion shall by iust desert be the moze punished for example sake, so that which first shall seeke for mercie, shall farre moze easily finde fauor, than that citie or towne that shall stay vnto the last pinch. I assure you my friends, that I shalbe glad, and think my selfe happy, if I may be employed to winne you by clemencie, rather than to subdue you by force: For I am a Frenchman, and yours.

HENRIE.